

Remarks

The Examiner is thanked for the early indication of allowable subject matter. Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-10 are pending in the application, with 1 being the independent claim. No new matter has been entered by any amendments.

Based on the above amendment and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,163,180 to Eltoukhy et al. (“Eltoukhy”). Claim 5, 6, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (“103”) as being obvious over Eltoukhy in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,515,931 to Marr et al. (“Marr”). Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 103 as being obvious over Eltoukhy in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,326,651 to Manabe (“Manabe”).

The Examiner asserts Eltoukhy in FIG. 3 teaches “forming lightly doped source and drain extension regions (18a and 20a) in the channel that cumulatively occupy more than half the channel (figure 3).” However, claim 1 recites at least “forming lightly doped source and drain extension regions in the channel that cumulatively occupy more than half of the channel before programming of the anti-fuse device.” Thus, this feature of claim 1 is in contrast to Eltoukhy, which teaches at col. 8, lines 48-50 (emphasis added) “As shown in FIG. 3, only antifuse 10a has been programmed and contains a conductive filament 38.” In other words, this does not meet the claim feature of having these characteristics before (e.g., prior to) programming. Thus, the Examiner is asserting a portion of Figure 3 in Eltoukhy that is non-analogous to the claimed feature. None of the other applied patents teach or suggest at least this feature of claim 1.

Accordingly, none of the applied patents teach or recite at least “forming lightly doped source and drain extension regions in the channel that cumulatively occupy more than half of the channel before programming of the anti-fuse device,” as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw

the rejection to claim 1. Also, claims 2-9 should be found allowable of the applied patents for at least this reason.

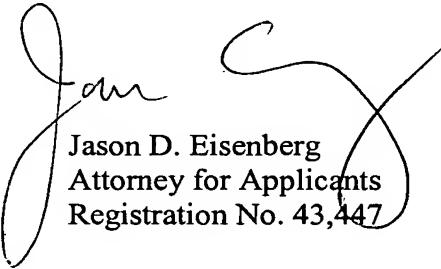
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Jason D. Eisenberg
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,447

Date: 9/7/04
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
SKGF_DC1: 297103.1